

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A threaded deformed reinforcing bar for use in reinforced concrete, said bar comprising:

a core, said core defining an outer surface and a central axis therethrough;

at least two series of transverse ribs on said core, the ribs in each said series aligned and spaced longitudinally along said bar and separated by troughs, each said series separated transversely from adjacent series by a longitudinally extending gap, and wherein said at least two series of transverse ribs are each angled and aligned with adjacent series of transverse ribs to form a pattern of threads along said bar; and

a longitudinally extending rib in each said longitudinally extending gap, each said longitudinally extending rib defining an outer surface wherein the distance between the central axis of said core and the outer surface of each said longitudinally extending rib is greater than the largest distance between the central axis of said core and the outer surface of said core, each said longitudinally extending rib ~~being absent interrupted adjacent~~ at least one end of said bar such that said longitudinally extending rib defines discontinuous sections in said troughs, whereby an internally threaded member having an internal thread sized to receive said transverse ribs can be selectively threaded onto said pattern of threads, which is formed by said transverse ribs, at said at least one end, and wherein said discontinuous sections of said longitudinally extending rib do not comprise said pattern of threads.

2. (Original) The bar of claim 1 wherein said core has a substantially circular cross-section.

3. (Original) The bar of claim 1 wherein said transverse ribs and said longitudinal ribs are integral with each other at areas of intersection of said ribs.

4. (Original) The bar of claim 3 wherein all said ribs are integral with said core.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Original) The bar of claim 1 wherein each said longitudinally extending rib terminates at a point spaced from said at least one end of said bar.

7. (Original) The bar of claim 1 wherein said longitudinal ribs are sheared off adjacent said one end of said bar.

8. (Original) The bar of claim 7 wherein parts of said transverse ribs are also sheared off adjacent said sheared off longitudinal ribs.

9. (Currently Amended) A threaded deformed reinforcing bar for use in reinforced concrete, said bar comprising:

a core;

at least one transversely extending rib forming a pattern of threads on said bar, wherein the radius of said at least one transversely extending rib and the pattern of threads is substantially the same along the length of said bar; and

at least one longitudinally extending rib intersecting said at least one transverse rib at multiple areas along said bar and interrupting said pattern of threads along said bar in at least a first section of said bar;

and wherein at least a part of said at least one longitudinally extending rib is absent from a second section of said bar adjacent at least one end of said bar such that a longitudinally extending gap intersects said transverse ribs in said second section of said bar adjacent said at least one end of said bar whereby said pattern of threads, which is formed by said transverse ribs, in said second section is unobstructed, and whereby an internally threaded member having an internal thread having a substantially constant diameter sized to receive said transverse ribs can be threaded onto said pattern of threads, which is formed by said transverse ribs, in said second section.

10. (Previously Presented) The bar of claim 9 wherein said transverse rib is a continuous spiral along said bar.

11. (Previously Presented) The bar of claim 9 wherein said core has a substantially circular cross-section.

12. (Previously Presented) The bar of claim 11 wherein said at least one transverse rib includes at least two series of discontinuities extending longitudinally along said bar and wherein one said longitudinally extending rib extends along each said series of discontinuities.

13. (Original) The bar of claim 12 wherein said transverse and said longitudinally extending ribs are integral with each other and with said core.

Claims 14-21 (Canceled)